Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal

1776. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the *suo moto* reference made to the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal, which was continued in April, 1986 as per the Punjab Memorandum of Settlement, by Central Government and references received from Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan seeking explanation/guidelines on certain points in the Report of the Tribunal;

(b) the progress made in this regard so far and the stage at which it stands at present; and

(c) the follow-up action being taken by Government to get an early decision by the said Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Ravi Beas Waters Tribunal have already given their report under Section 5(2) of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act. But their explanation and guidance on the points made out by the States and the Government of India under Section 5(3) have not been received. The Tribunal held a number of sittings when written/oral submissions seeking guidance and explanation were made by the Central Government, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi. One of the Members of the Tribunal resigned in the meanwhile. Efforts are a foot for filling up the vacancy.

Incident on Ashok Vihar Flyover

1777. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Municipal Corporation of Delhi has blamed the Northern Railway for the incident on Ashok Vihar flyover where a woman and her daughter had fallen through a gap in the central verge and sustained injuries recently;

(b) whether as per the report of the Enquiring Officer of the MCD, the onus of maintenance of the flyover above the railway tracks, lies with the Railway authorities;

(c) if so, whether any compensation has been paid to the victims, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to prevent such incidents occurring in future on the Railway overbridges during construction and afterwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conclusion of the enquiry officer is not correct because the accident occurred on the approach span which was neither built nor is maintained by Railways.

(c) The question of compensation by Railways does not arise.

(d) A System of observing safety precautions on such works taken up by Railways exists.

Upgrading of M. G. tracks between Delhi to Ajmer

1778. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made during the current financial year for the upgrading of Metre-gauge tracks between Delhi and Ajmer on the Western Railway to speed up the Mail Express trains and minimise their running time; and

(b) if so, the time likely to be taken to complete the renewal and strengthening to reduce the running time of these trains particularly between Delhi and Ajmer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

National Symposium by Indian Dairy Association

1779. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Dairy Association, New Delhi controlled and managed by NDDB is organising a National Symposium at a 5-Star Hotel in Delhi in September, 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that high fees would prohibit/prevent individuals and scientists some of whom are even life members from participating in the symposium; and

(c) if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The Indian Dairy Association is not controlled and managed by NDDB. It is a registered Society registered with Registrar of Societies under Act. XXI of 1860 and managed by the elected Central Executive Committee in accordance with the Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations.

(b) The Annual General Body of the Indian Dairy Association in its meeting held on 3rd Sept., 1991 has decided to oranise a Symposium in September, 1991. The date, venue and fee for the participants are yet to be decided.

(c) Does not arise.

Volcanic eruption at Indo-Burmese border

1780. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Barren Island on the Indo-Burmese maritime boundary has been in volcanic eruption;

(b) the intensity of the eruption;

(c) whether the Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Island and his staff paid a visit to the Island to watch and study the eruption; and

(d) whether the eruption is having any ecological effect on India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Barren Island volcano in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is erupting lava and smoke. The red hot lava has reached the landing site near the north-western corner of the Island. Lava is cascading into the sea and the sea water there was found profusely boiling. The present eruption is on a low intensity.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Trees and bushes on the path of the have flow in the Barren Island have been charred or burnt. The eruption is likely to adversely affect the marine life in the coastal areas surrounding the Island. However, the eruption is not likely to have any ecological effect on the main land.

Achievements of sustainable Agriculture

1781. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the review on sustainable Agriculture by A.T. Dadani which appeared in Economic Times dated the 16th July, 1991;

(b) whether it is a fact that like other developed countries, India is also moving towards goal of sustainable agriculture without use of pesticides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and other feasible alternatives being developed and tested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government are advocating Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as the main thrust of Plant Protection strategy. This strategy envisages incorporation of cultural, mechanical and biological techniques for pest and disease management. The adoption of this strategy leads to judicious and need based application of pesticides. Biological technique envisages control of pests through conservation and augmentation of parasites, predators and also use of other Biocontrol agents like fungi, viruses, nematodes, etc. Govt. are